



Where children are born can affect their chances for a strong start in life. Babies need good health, strong families, and positive early learning experiences to foster their healthy brain development and help them realize their full potential.

This fact sheet provides a snapshot of how infants, toddlers, and their families are faring with respect to these three developmental domains. For each domain, selected child or family indicators and policy indicators are highlighted and compared to national averages. Important demographic information is also included. A summary table of all indicators is provided on the last page, for reference.



Michigan's Rankings

KEY



Getting Started



Reaching Forward



Improving Outcomes



Working Effectively

Overall

G R O W

Reaching Forward

Good Health

G R O W

Reaching Forward

Strong Families

G R O W

Getting Started

Positive Early Learning Experiences

G R O W

Reaching Forward



Demographics

Infants and toddlers in Michigan

Overview

Michigan is home to 341,240 infants and toddlers, representing 3.4 percent of the state's population. As many as 48 percent live in households with incomes less than twice the federal poverty level (in 2017, about \$50,000 a year for a family of four), placing them at economic disadvantage. America's youngest children are diverse and are raised in a variety of family contexts. A broad array of policies and services are required to ensure that all of them have an equitable start in life.

■ MICHIGAN ■ NATIONAL AVERAGE

Race/ethnicity of infants and toddlers

Non-Hispanic White ■ **65.7%**
■ 49.3%

Non-Hispanic Black ■ **17.1%**
■ 13.8%

Hispanic ■ **8.2%**
■ 26.1%

Non-Hispanic other ■ **5.2%**
■ 5.1%

Non-Hispanic Asian ■ **3.2%**
■ 4.9%

American Indian/Alaska Native ■ **0.6%**
■ 0.8%

Working moms

Mothers in the Labor Force ■ **62.1%**
■ 61.5%

Poverty status of infants and toddlers

Above Low-Income ■ **51.6%**
■ 55.4%

In Poverty ■ **26.7%**
■ 22.7%

Low-Income ■ **21.7%**
■ 22.0%

Infants and toddlers in poverty, by race

Non-Hispanic Black ■ **56.5%**
■ 39.5%

Hispanic ■ **40.0%**
■ 30.8%

Non-Hispanic Other ■ **22.9%**
■ 20.0%

Non-Hispanic White ■ **18.3%**
■ 14.6%

Family structure

2-Parent Family ■ **74.7%**
■ 76.3%

1-Parent Family ■ **23.4%**
■ 21.5%

No Parents Present ■ **1.9%**
■ 2.2%

Grandparent-headed households

■ **7.5%**
■ 9.4%

Rural/Non-metro area

Living Outside of a Metro Area ■ **15.5%**
■ 8.7%

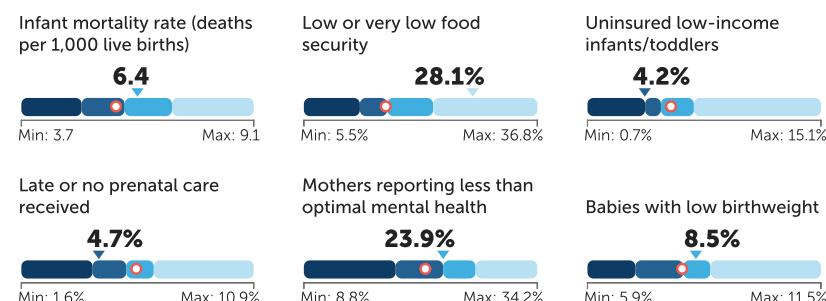
What is Good Health?

Good physical and mental health provide the foundation for babies to develop physically, cognitively, emotionally, and socially. The rate of brain growth is faster in the first three years than at any other stage of life, and this growth sets the stage for subsequent development. Access to good nutrition and affordable maternal, pediatric, and family health care are essential to ensure that babies receive the nourishment and care they need for a strong start in life.

Michigan falls in the Reaching Forward (R) tier of states when it comes to the overall health of infants and toddlers. The state's low ranking in the Good Health domain reflects indicators of food security, nutrition, and children's health. However, the percentage of women in Michigan receiving late or no prenatal care and the percentage of uninsured low-income infants and toddlers are in the Improving Outcomes (O) tier.

Six Key Indicators of Good Health

KEY ← Range of all state values → ▼ Michigan ○ National average
G Getting Started **R** Reaching Forward **O** Improving Outcomes **W** Working Effectively



Good Health Policy in Michigan

Medicaid expansion state	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
State Medicaid policy for maternal depression screening in well-child visits	Required
Medicaid plan covers social-emotional screening for young children	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Medicaid plan covers IECMH services at home	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Medicaid plan covers IECMH services at pediatric/family medicine practices	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Medicaid plan covers IECMH services at ECE programs	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

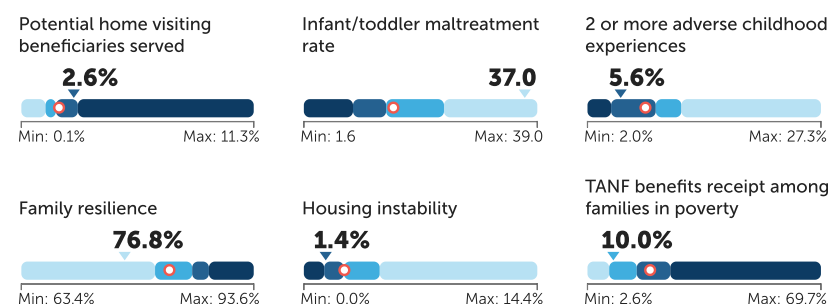
What Defines Strong Families?

Young children develop in the context of their families, where stability and supportive relationships nurture their growth. All families of infants and toddlers benefit from support with parenting, and many—particularly those challenged by economic instability—need access to resources that help them meet their children's daily and developmental needs. Important supports include home visiting services, child welfare systems that are responsive to young children's needs, and family-friendly employer policies that provide paid sick and family leave.

Michigan falls in the Getting Started (G) tier of states when it comes to indicators of strong families. The state's low ranking in this domain reflects indicators of child welfare, such as the infant/toddler maltreatment rate, and neighborhood safety. For the percentage of infants and toddlers living in crowded housing, however, Michigan falls in the Working Effectively (W) tier.

Six Key Indicators of Strong Families

KEY ← Range of all state values → ▼ Michigan ○ National average
G Getting Started **R** Reaching Forward **O** Improving Outcomes **W** Working Effectively



Strong Families Policy in Michigan

Paid sick time that covers care for child	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Paid family leave	No <input type="checkbox"/>



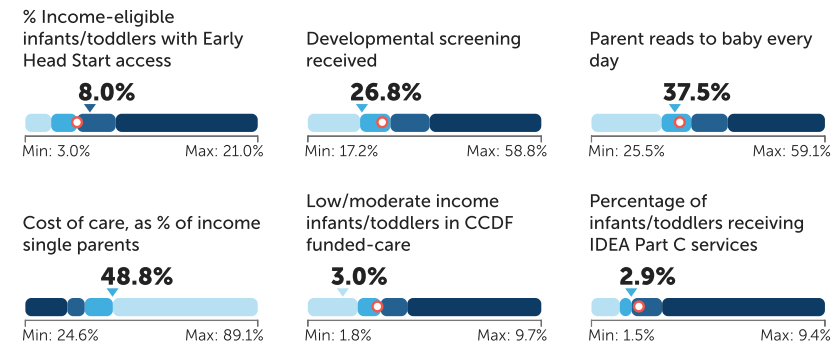
What Defines Positive Early Learning Experiences?

Infants and toddlers learn through play, active exploration of their environment, and, most importantly, through interactions with the significant adults in their lives. The quality of babies' early learning experiences at home and in other care settings has a lasting impact on their preparedness for life-long learning and success. Parents who require child care while they work or attend school need access to affordable, high-quality care options that promote positive development.

Michigan scores in the Reaching Forward (R) tier of states when considering key indicators related to early care and education and early intervention for infants and toddlers. The state's low ranking in the Positive Early Learning Experiences domain reflects indicators such as the percentage who receive a child care subsidy and the cost of infant care as a percentage of single parents' and married parents' incomes. However, in the Improving Outcomes (O) tier are the percentage of income-eligible children with access to Early Head Start and the percentage of infants and toddlers with a moderate/severe developmental delay.

Six Key Indicators of Positive Early Learning Experiences

KEY ← Range of all state values → ▼ Michigan ○ National average
G Getting Started R Reaching Forward O Improving Outcomes W Working Effectively



Positive Early Learning Experiences Policy in Michigan

Families above 200% of FPL eligible for child care subsidy No ❌

All indicators for Michigan

G Getting Started R Reaching Forward O Improving Outcomes W Working Effectively

Good Health

R Eligibility limit (% FPL) for pregnant women in Medicaid	200.0	O Uninsured low-income infants/toddlers	4.2%
National average: 200.0		National average: 5.8%	
G Low or very low food security	28.1%	G Infants ever breastfed	77.7%
National average: 16.5%		National average: 83.2%	
R Infants breastfed at 6 months	55.6%	O Late or no prenatal care received	4.7%
National average: 57.6%		National average: 6.2%	
R Mothers reporting less than optimal mental health	23.9%	R Preventive medical care received	90.1%
National average: 22.0%		National average: 90.7%	
G Preventive dental care received	23.5%	R Babies with low birthweight	8.5%
National average: 30.0%		National average: 8.2%	
R Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	6.4	R Received recommended vaccines	70.2%
National average: 5.9		National average: 70.7%	

Strong Families

O Housing instability **1.4%**
National average: 2.5%

R TANF benefits receipt among families in poverty **10.0%**
National average: 20.6%

G Unsafe neighborhoods **6.8%**
National average: 6.3%

R 1 adverse childhood experience **23.3%**
National average: 21.9%

O Infants/toddlers exiting foster care to permanency **99.4%**
National average: 98.4%

W Crowded housing **9.4%**
National average: 15.6%

G Infant/toddler maltreatment rate **37.0**
National average: 16.0

G Family resilience **76.8%**
National average: 82.6%

O 2 or more adverse childhood experiences **5.6%**
National average: 8.3%

O Potential home visiting beneficiaries served **2.6%**
National average: 1.9%

Positive Early Learning Experiences

R Parent reads to baby every day **37.5%**
National average: 38.2%

O % Income-eligible infants/toddlers with Early Head Start access **8.0%**
National average: 7.0%

R Cost of care, as % of income single parents **48.8%**
National average: N/A

R Developmental screening received **26.8%**
National average: 30.4%

R Percentage of infants/toddlers receiving IDEA Part C services **2.9%**
National average: 3.1%

R Parent sings to baby every day **55.8%**
National average: 56.4%

R Cost of care, as % of income married families **12.3%**
National average: N/A

G Low/moderate income infants/toddlers in CCDF funded-care **3.0%**
National average: 4.2%

O Infants/toddlers with developmental delay **0.0%**
National average: 1.1%